

**THE HONORABLE DANYA DAYSON  
ASSOCIATE JUDGE  
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Danya Dayson was nominated by President Barack Obama on July 11, 2011 and was confirmed by the US Senate on November 9, 2011.

Judge Dayson was born in New York City and was raised in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She received Bachelor of Arts degrees in Political Science and Russian /Eastern European Studies from Appalachian State University. Judge Dayson received her JD from Georgetown University Law Center in 1998.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge Dayson practiced criminal law as a solo practitioner, representing clients in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in misdemeanor and felony cases. In 2000, Judge Dayson served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Judge Robert E. Morin in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

After her clerkship, Judge Dayson was a partner in the firm of Wicks & Dayson. There, she represented clients in criminal matters, both in Superior Court and the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. In addition, she began her family law practice, representing respondents, parents and caretakers in abuse and neglect cases in the Superior Court. Judge Dayson's family law practice also included representing litigants in divorce, custody and child support cases, as well as serving as court appointed *Guardian Ad Litem* in custody cases.

In 2003, Judge Dayson joined the firm of O'Toole, Rothwell, Nassau & Steinbach. There she continued her criminal practice, including representing capital defendants in several federal courts. In addition, she headed the firm's domestic relations practice, serving clients in the area of separation, divorce, custody and child support. Judge Dayson was part of a team of lawyers who served as outside counsel for several small businesses and non-profit organizations, advising clients in matters related to employment law, corporate compliance, insurance and contract negotiation. In this capacity, Ms. Dayson appeared on her clients' behalf before agencies, courts and in arbitration.

Judge Dayson served on the Domestic Relations and Paternity Support Subcommittee of the Family Court Implementation Committee, and the Steering Committee of the Family Law Section of the District of Columbia Bar. She volunteered, both for trainings and as a volunteer attorney for the Family Court Self Help Center in the D.C. Superior Court. Judge Dayson is an adjunct professor at the George Washington School of Law, co-teaching a criminal law seminar on the death penalty.

Judge Dayson is married; she and her husband are the proud parents of a two year old daughter.

*Last updated April 2012*